

Edwards: McLennan County to Receive \$610,557 in Stimulus Funding for Local Law Enforcement

(Washington, D.C.) – United States Representative Chet Edwards announced today that McLennan County local law enforcement will receive \$610,557 in funding from the Stimulus legislation signed by the President on February 17th. These funds will be distributed through the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program to McLennan County, the City of Waco police department, the City of Bellmead police department, and the City of Lacy Lakeview police department.

“Ensuring the safety of our communities is one of my top priorities,” said Edwards. “These funds will help our sheriff’s office and police departments hire more officers, upgrade equipment, and keep our streets and law enforcement personnel safe.”

The JAG program allows local governments to engage in a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and improve their criminal justice system. It provides counties and cities wide flexibility to prioritize their needs and place justice funds where they are most needed. The grant award may be used to help pay for new personnel, law enforcement programs, prevention programs, multi-jurisdictional drug task forces, or technology improvement projects.

“Creating jobs and protecting our families from criminals are positive uses of federal stimulus funds,” concluded Edwards.

This recent set of JAG grants will provide McLennan County with \$48,155. The City of Waco will receive \$485,777, the City of Bellmead will receive \$62,634, and the City of Lacy Lakeview will receive \$13,991.

Waco Chief of Police Brent Stroman said, “We appreciate Congressman Edward’s work in Waco being awarded JAG funds in the amount of \$485,777. Over the next few weeks and as part of our budget process, we will review and prioritize our needs to insure we use the funds in the most cost effective manner for the Waco community.”